(c) In order to encourage fish farming in the inland fisheries potential States, IDA assisted Inland Fisheries Project is under implementation in 5 States *viz*, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal. Under the Project the National Bank is associated in refinancing for fish pond development programme and construction of hatchery programme for production of quality fish seed. The Project envisages fish farming in 1,17,000 hectares water area and establishment of 27 hatcheries in the five States. Refinance facilities are also extended for construction of fish farm and hatcheries for production of quality fish seed and for providing infrastructure facilities, such as transport vehicle, fish stall, etc.

Extensive income tax raids in Delhi

44. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING:
SHRI M. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in the 'Times of India' on the 3rd July, 1985 to the effect that extensive raids by the Income Tax officials in Delhi have revealed large scale tax evasion having Nepali connection;

(b) if so, what are the names of the concerns whose premises have been raided and what are the other details in this regard; and

(c) by when the investigation in the matter is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Income-tax Department carried out searches on 13.6.1985 in the cases of the following concerns engaged in manufacturing and trading of 'Kattha':

1. M|s. Shankar Trading Co. (P) Ltd.
2. M|s. Bishan Das Girdhari Lal (P) Ltd.
3. M|s. Mehta Rural Development Co. (P) Ltd.
4. M|s. Bishan Das Girdhari Lal.
5. M|s. Ganesh Research Institute.
6. M|s. Mehta Charitable Prajayanlaya.

Investigation is in progress. However, it is not possible to fix any time limit for completion of investigation.

Seizure of unaccounted gold etc. in Madhya Pradesh

45. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:
SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Income-tax authorities have recently seized unaccounted gold, silver and currency notes from some business establishments in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Income-tax Department recently conducted searches at Indore and Sagar in Madhya Pradesh resulting in seizure of prima facie unaccounted cash of Rs. 6.81 lakhs and other valuable assets including gold, silver, jewellery and ornaments and other assets valued at Rs. 60.96 lakhs approximately.

Sale of coffee to the USSR

46. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 35,000 tonnes of coffee have been sold at a discount of 40 per cent to the USSR during the year 1984-85;

(b) whether it is a fact that as a result of this sale the coffee industry has suffered heavily; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to prevent such losses in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) Prices of coffee in importing countries, who are members of the International Coffee Agreement depend on the quotas fixed, while prices in non-member countries generally depend on the position of surplus availability of coffee in exporting countries, after accounting for the requirements of I.C.A. Member countries. The prices in the two markets can vary widely.

Keeping in view the record crop of 1984, besides our normal exports to ICA Member countries in accordance with our quota, India had also contracted for substantial coffee exports to non-member countries including USSR.

The exports to the non-ICA markets have been effected at prices which compare favourably with the prices realised by other producing countries in such markets, although these are substantially lower than prices prevailing in ICA markets.

Further the prices, obtained on such exports are comparable to sales realizations in the domestic market, which are so regulated as to ensure remunerative returns to the growers.

There is no question of any loss to the coffee industry on account of exports to USSR or other non-quota markets.

Price of coffee

47. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what price per point the coffee industry has been able to obtain during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been no rise in the price of coffee for quite some time but there has been a substantial rise in the production cost during the last few years which may lead the industry towards sickness; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take so that the industry does not become sick?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Payments per Point declared for coffee for the last three coffee years (October—September) is as follows:—

Season	(Rs. per point)
1981-82	7.80
1982-83	7.70
1983-84	8.00

(b) The return to coffee growers in recent years has remained above the minimum release price which is fixed on the basis of an assessment of reasonable returns to coffee growers after meeting their costs.

(c) Question does not arise.

Consumer Price index

48. SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the consumer price index for the last week of March, 1985 and first week of July 1985; and

(b) what action Government have taken to control the upward trend of consumer price index?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (1960-100) is compiled on a monthly basis. The Consumer Price Index was 586 in March 1985 and 600 in May, 1985 (the latest available).

The thrust of Government's anti-inflationary policy continues to be on effective demand and supply management including strengthening of public distribution system, enforcement of fiscal discipline and keeping the aggregate liquidity in the system under control. The Central Government has advised the State Governments to take strict action against traders indulging in profiteering, hoarding and blackmarketing.